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THURSDAY, AUGUST 5, 1909.

In the closing hours of the cam-The Democratic county clerks are regarded as a part of the machine, behind Judge Mann. Thirty per cent of the clerks, it is said, are Republicans, and at has frequently that the Republicans desire Judge Mann's nomination. Yet the clerks, like The Times-Dispatch correspondents, report a majority for Judge opponent. If this is dismissed as a coincidence, few would deny that it is a remarkable coincidence.

But ante-election polls, even the best of them, are not conclusive. No one can say with any decisiveness who will be named as the next Gov ernor of Virginia to-day. Surface indications are that the contest will be exceedingly close. And this should give an added impulse to every Democrat to go to the polls to-day, at whatever inconvenience, and register his there may be some excuse for shirking this citizen's duty, but in a closefought struggle, where every vote ells, there is none. The citizen who stays out for fear that the nominee vill not be his choice is actively help ing the very object he wants to defeat He gains nothing. Even if he shows is hostility by voting with the Republicans in November, he accomare destined to accomplish nothing. His manhood suffrage must speak to only truly decisive vote. To sulk in the other man, and it means nothing reaching a decision here else under the sun.

## THE COUNCIL'S CONFIDENCE IN MR. TRAFFORD.

Council last night snowed unde solution to recommit the committee award of the electrical contract to But this "unquestionably' the sole bidder. With this resolution gineering expert to review the Issue raised between Mr. Trafford and the nent from Mr. Trafford undoubted ly incressed the majority vote, and the complaints as bids and depositing them in the bid-box. The Council's action charges of unfair treatment were deemed beneath notice.

That action, we are convinced, was mistake. The city had nothing to lose by probing to the bottom this unfortuoversy, except a trivial de-

cannot be evaded or glossed over. To ignore these charges is, unhappily, and to dispose of them. As long as they are not effectually disposed of by those thoroughly competent to do so, the memory of them is likely to linger in the public mind. To us it seems that the city has no right to leave an official, however trusted and trustworthy, in such a position. The original specifications were checked up by disinterested experts, at a cost of \$1,000 to the city. That money was not wasted. On the contrary, it was well spent, proving to the city that it had a capable engineer, and that its plans for a costly municipal work were sound and without flaw, Nobody thought that this review of the crown, when his press was subject thought that this review of the crown, when his press was subject them the company to be acceptable to some parasitia.

and no one in Spain dares print his opinions. It may be that the Moors have again routed the Spanish troops and have hurled them back from the lave hurled them back from the Riff country. It may be that a new there a not not proposition. Thus the Senate Demecrats not only repudiated their platform and prostituted their platform

No question is ever settled until it is settled right. We do not consider that the Council is competent to settle a technical question of this sort right. Therefore we are unable to persuade ourselves that this question has been

## THE GHOST OF THE TARIFF COM-

The tariff commission has been lost in the shuffle. Only the wreck of it, a ghost and faint reminiscence, lingers in the litter of language in the finished bill.

Advocates of the commission desired In the closing nous paign, two newspaper polls, gathered a standing board of well-paid A muzzled press has always from totally different sources, confirm perts, as unprejudiced and disinterested the emblem of degenerate despotism. Only when the truth hurt have monomy when the difference of the configurations of the configurations of the configurations. a standing board of well-paid ex- party, partial as any polls could be, and both of trade conditions at home and abroad was made by its own special corre- and an alert press were relied upon to News Leader's forecast, on the economist of standing would recom-Aldrich bill. A commission of experts honest legislation. That is to say, such lar and Pere Duchesne was allowed asserted during the campaign for and was understood to be prom-

> tional screws. Here is the salvage from the planned commission:

> To secure information to assist th President in the discharge of the duties imposed upon him by this sec tion [the maximum and minimum section] and the officers of the gov-ernment in the administration of the customs laws, the President is hereby

Senator Aldrich, prodded on the point,

for paying it. March 15 last have given new life to the demand for a tariff commission. It was contended on the floor that it was he duty of the Council to "vindicate" its consulting engineer. It may be an swered that the Council has a higher duty than vindicating its officials, and that is protecting the interests of Richemond and its reputation for scrupulously fair dealing. But let that pass. It is not in the power of the Council to "vindicate its engineer on a complication of highly technical differences of confidence in a city official unquestion and the council's expression of confidence in a city official unquestion and the council's opinion on matters of kilowatts, voltage, generators and exciters carried when the Council's expression of confidence in a city official unquestion and the council has overwhelmingly erjected the chance to give Mr. Trafford the benefit of an expert.

In this we think the Council has overwhelmingly rejected the chance to give Mr. Trafford the benefit of an expert to do that, and the Council has overwhelmingly rejected the chance to give Mr. Trafford the benefit of an expert to give a commission of experts whom the country trusted, public opinion count give a commission of experts whom the council has overwhelmingly rejected the chance to give Mr. Trafford the benefit of an expert to do that, and the Council has been unfair to Mr. Trafford Homes are commission of the reverse of the country and the council has overwhelmingly rejected the chance to give Mr. Trafford Homes are commission of experts whom the country trusted, public opinion could the product in which they to do that, and the Council has been unfair to Mr. Trafford Homes are commission of experts whom the country trusted, public opinion could the product in which they it is a country at large will waste little to the country at large will waste little to the March 15 last have given new life to the demand for a tariff commission.

tion fixed, or any money appropriated

proach to Mr. Trafford. Nobody argued courtier, deputied for the purpose, Th struggle to overcome this consorable On the contrary, it was alrectly in Mr. and the effort to secure freedom of th heavy responsibilities in the matter, battle for free speech. The two went and, we should imagine, considerably hand in hand. In England, the victory for the press came long after the And if he was entitled to that expert bill of rights had guaranteed freedom vindication-the only kind that is of speech, but the connection between upon the older right of free speech. the Magna Charta of untrammeled Eng-

In America, free speech and a free broad principle which the Constitu-tion followed, and which has never been violated. Only once, when the Federalists passed the sedition act was the American press endangered. and then a nonular revolution removed from power the offending political

absurd censorship of Louis XV., which drove Voltaire out of France and which caused Rousseau to print his later works in the Netherlands, was but a single instance of an absurd principle That "imprimatur" of the King, without which nothing could be printed, became a badge of shameful subordination to a despotic monarchy. One of the first acts of the victorious revolu-Marat brought his press from the celto publish his scandals unrestrained. In the same manner, one of Napoleon's in France, was to suppress a large thing so totally different as not to number of independent papers. Simisensorship and thereby precipitated the coming of the Citizen King.

One by one these petty restrictions have been removed, until Russia and The monarchs of Italy and Germany though they have the power, seldom The flood tide of revolution, ere long, will sweep away even these vestiges of outworn tyranny.

Twenty thousand coat tailors are on strike in New York, but what of it? People are going to quit wearing coats after the new tariff law gets going.

"Dr. Baker," says the headline, "believes Thaw still insane." We feel compelled to say to the Doctor that he can never start a controversy with us that way.

tracts of African wildland are fit for white population, which looks sort of like the genesis of the East African Country Life Commission,

The tariff being scheduled to pass to-day, we herewith authorize prosperity to leap up and go as far as she likes.

The modern Spaniard seems to be disposed to leave fighting to the bulls. "Where are our great men?" de-mands Harper's Weekly, pessimisti-cally. Is the Woodrow Wilson boom due for a wounding in the house of its friends."

friends? Assuming that they are not Delsar-teans, those Scandinavian strikers are putting up a pretty good Swedish movement.

One of them will be a Governor to-

Old Virginia leads, others follow, Seeing that this State had decided upon to-day to do its voting, the imitative Senate has come right along and done the same thing,

Mr. Taft urges his party to present a united front. What's the use of do-ing that when everybody knows it's got a Kilkenny back.

If the tightwads won't give Joe Cannon an automobile, the old gentle-man must needs be content with rid-ing his hobbles.

Possibly Spain's difficulties may be more trouble inside

## Borrowed Jingles.

SONG OF THE SPENDTURIFT, For me just a little is nover enough; Live only one speed—that's the high. I oun't eat a steak that is gristly or tough— The best, with fresh mushrooms. I buy, When short, I go hungry and dishton my

belt, Saving up for a provender spree, Some people may scrimp and may dine of a shrimp, But it's plenty or nothing for me.

When I've a few dollars to hang on some

If ever I have an account at the bank
I'll check it all out in a chunk.
I'll live like a duke or some other of rank
I'll live like a duke or some other of rank
I'll hand my last five to a drug clerk and
"say!
"Some dope for my felo-de-se—
No poison that's cheap; here, the change
you may keep—
It is plenty or nothing for me."
—Chicago News.

MERELY JOKING.

A Commercial Objection. A Commercial Objection.
"My son," said the father, solemnly, "I am sorry I must use the rod, but it is my duty,"
"But, dad," objected the clever son, "I have heard you say often you don't approve of duty on hides?"—Baltimore American.

The Other View of It. "The preacher that married you says you only gave him a dollar."
"He ought to be giad I didn't sue him for damages."—Judge

Helping Him Along. Hotfoot Harry: "An old schoolmate o' mine hung out his lawy-r's siningle yesterday, and to-day J offered him his first care just to help 'im along."
Slumber Moze: "Wot wos de case?"
Hotfoot Harry: "Told 'im de world owed me a livin' and offered 'im 50 per cent, to collect de debt."—Bohernian.

Sunday Travel,

Benevilent Old Gent: "Don't you know, my boy, that you, an American lad, have a chance to be President when you grow up?"

Willie (gloomily): "Naw, I sin't got no chance. I sold my chance to Johnny Billings for a box of marbles."—Harper's Bazar.

"I was mimicking Prof. Hore yesterday and he caught me."
"What did he say?"
"Told me to stop making a fool of my-self."—The Wasp.

## SHOTS FROM THE GALLERY.

JEW JERSEY'S prestige is threatened NEW JERNEY'S pressure in is said to have killed himself because of the mosquitoes there.—Washington Herald.

# The Courts of Europe

By La Marquise de Fontenoy.

bells
I don't hold them back for a minute,
I get a tie such as is worn by the swells
And then a spark stickpin goes in it.
The hunger I feel doesn't teach me to save:
Next time just the samme it will be,
Some people may stint, but my coin does a
sprint—
It is plenty or nothing for me.

1001 shared his captivity, watching over him with the most touching care and devotion, in the Palace of Tchiragan, refusing to leave his side, or to take part in that social life which, in spite of the strictness of harem etiquette, is nevertheless a feature of

By La Marquise de Fontenoy.

The Conference Bill.

We do not know whether we are glader and the company of the property of the

Converse that we have been a second of the Convertice for history. The clean of the Convertice for history and the convertic

# STATE PRESS

Royal Love and Divorce in Turkey.

Since a decree pronouncing the dissolution of the marriage of his nice, Princess Khadidle Sultana, from hef husband, Vassef Pasha. And thereby hangs a romance of the Ottoman court. The princess is the daughter of the late Sultan Murad, and until 1901 shared his captivity, watching over him with the most touching care and devotion, in the Palace of Tchira-

# Voice of the People.

views and liberal sentiments and on of the most charming of American litterateurs, and made at least one invaluable addition to medical science fiercely assailed at its announcement

either know now er soon will learn to their sorrow.

Intead of a reduction in the cost of living, which was clearly promised by both parties represented in Congress:
There will be an enormous increase in the cost of woolens and men's suits, women's dresses, underwear, and hats made from woolen fabrics, not because the rates on these articles have been increased, but because the present excessive rates have not been reduced, and because, under these rates, a vast trust has been formed to control woolen manufactures.

There will be a large increase in the cost of cotton fabrics and in nearly all articles made from these fabrics, including women's and children's clothing.

or them being Dreadnoughts.
Having shown the aggregation of monsters to his guest, King Edward delicately observed:
"I am, glad that you have had the opportunity of seeing the most powerful and the largest fleet ever assentiated but I trust Your Maiesty will.